

H.C. Burleigh Papers

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A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF

The Mills
of
Milford
Ontario

1800 - 1972

BY

MURRAY CLAPP

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*to Mr Burleigh
with my compliments
Murray Clapp*



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MILFORD MILLS

Part I

The first mill in the district from which the village of Milford derived its name was built in 1808 by Joseph Clapp on Black River (Creek) situated on the front of Lot 24, 1st Concession South of Black River. The property was then owned by the Honourable Richard Cartwright Jr. who had acquired it from Lieutenant Archibald McDonnell, 24 April 1800. Lt. McDonnell had been granted the land for military services during the American Revolution, receiving his patent from the Crown 22 May 1794.

Richard Cartwright Jr., born in 1759, was a very astute businessman and could be considered the leading citizen of Kingston, or even Upper Canada. He was, among other things, Kingston Parliamentary representative, a Justice of the Peace, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Justice of the Court of Quarter Sessions, and a member of the Land Board. During his lifetime he bought and sold vast amounts of land. His will of 18 May 1815 listed some thirty thousand acres to be passed on to his children. The lands extended from the London district in the west, to Cornwall in the east. Several town lots in York (Toronto) and Kingston were also listed, together with breweries, mills, and blacksmith shops situated on the properties.

Richard Cartwright married Mary Magdalen Secord of Niagara, and they had Thomas, John, Robert, and Mary Magdalen, who married Captain Alexander Thomas Dobbs, Royal Navy, Kingston.

Professor James Alexander Roy in his book, *Kingston The King's Town* describes the coming of the Cartwrights to Canada:

"Richard Cartwright was the only son of Richard Sr., a native of London, England who had settled in Albany, and Hannah Beasley, who was of Dutch Loyalist stock. He was preparing to study for the Anglican ministry when the American Revolution broke out and his family had to leave the country. The Cartwrights found their way north to St. John's in the Province of Quebec where with other United Empire Loyalists they lived for a time, partly on government rations and partly on a small pension which Cartwright Sr. enjoyed for his services in the French Wars."

Unable to undertake the theological studies, Richard Cartwright Jr. served as military secretary to Colonel Butler of the Rangers, and in that capacity took part in the Wyoming expedition and the Cherry Valley campaign of 1778. After the war the Cartwrights

settled Carleton Island, and as representatives of the North West Company their business enterprises, too vast to be described in this brief historical sketch, were launched. Richard Cartwright died in 1815 and was buried in the family enclosure at St. Paul's Church, Kingston.

When Joseph Clapp built the first mill at Milford around 1808 financed by, and on the property of, Richard Cartwright, he held a lease-rent agreement and first option to purchase. Just where Joseph had learned the milling trade is not known, but one can be assured that he had proven his competence to Richard Cartwright before financial aid was forthcoming.

Joseph Clapp, the pioneer, was born in 1762 in LeGrange, Dutchess County, near Poughkeepsie in New York State. He came to Canada in January 1786 by team and sleigh over the ice via Lakes George and Champlain, down the Richelieu River to Montreal, and then west along the St. Lawrence to Hay Bay. The party, a month enroute, consisted of Joseph, his sisters Rhoda and Ursula, the latter with her husband Sampson Striker. They stayed the winter in Adolphustown with Benjamin Clapp who had homesteaded there in 1784 with VanAlstyne's party from Sorel.

According to the Dominion Archives, Joseph was granted eighty acres, the west half of Lot 13 in Concession 3 of Adolphustown on Hay Bay. While in the Hay Bay area, singly and with his relatives, Joseph acquired some five hundred acres of land in Adolphustown, Fredericksburgh, and Richmond townships.

In March, 1789 Joseph married Nancy Miller, the niece of John Roblin, also from Dutchess County. During the years 1792-1806 Joseph and Nancy had seven children:

Sarah married John Van de Water, settled Sidney township.

Philip married Melinda Head, lived Milford.

Catherine married Levi Baldwin, settled near Hamilton.

Patience married Edward "Ned" Dulmage, lived South Bay.

James married Jane Sproule, lived Milford.

Samuel married Sarah Fralick, lived Athol.

George married Nancy Herbert, lived Milford.

Joseph, the youngest, born 1811 in Milford married Susan Fralick and lived south of Milford.

Joseph chose as the site of the sawmill a piece of land on the west bank of the Black River some hundred yards south of the present bridge and dam. In the ravine, the river was fast flowing and would provide ample water power. Out of necessity the building was crude and basically provided shelter for the vertical saw and machinery. The produce of the mill soon provided lumber for a better shelter, a house for Nancy and the children, a barn to shelter the animals and expanded later to include a gristmill.

At the beginning there was little demand for flour because there was only one other white settler in the area, a Mr. Garrett, but the mill turned out timbers and lumber that were rafted down Black Creek to Kingston and then to Quebec for export.

The extensive stands of pine, oak, basswood, and cedar seemed likely to provide more than enough work for one sawmill, so Joseph Clapp requested that Richard Cartwright finance another on the Cartwright property in Lot 27, 1st Concession North of Black River, located on what was then called the upper falls of Black River, about half a mile west of the Milford mill. Cartwright agreed, but more about that later.

Joseph Clapp continued to improve and expand the saw and gristmill with other necessary out-buildings at Milford, as well as establishing an operational unit on Lot 27.

By disposition of his Hay Bay properties, Joseph had some ready cash and on 13 June 1812 he took up his option and purchased from Cartwright for six hundred pounds, two hundred acres in Lot 24, 1st Concession South of Black River, "...together with the gristmill and sawmill, and dwelling house and every other building and every part and parcel there-unto belonging..." as per memorial # 294.

In 1810 Joseph had purchased 160 acres from James Grant and Alexander Ross, being part of Lots 26-27, 1st Concession South of Black River. This property was later farmed by his youngest son Joseph and has continued uninterrupted in the Clapp family ever since.

In the fall of 1812, Joseph went to Kingston with Captain John Allen's Company of the Prince Edward Militia under Colonel Parker. He left his twenty year old son Philip to operate the mills. In Kingston, Joseph contracted a disease and died on February 20, 1813. He was buried in the Clarence Street Military Cemetery, Kingston. His will stated concerning the mill, "... to my first born son Philip the use of my sawmill for one year, also I give and bequeath to my sons James and George my sawmill after Philip's time of it expired, and also ten acres of land belonging to it when they come of age, (James was then 13 and George was 10) until which time it is to be at the disposal of the Executors (John McBrun and Anson Ferguson) for the support of my wife and the maintenance of my family..."

Philip operated the mill for his year, and the following eighteen years. James and George apprenticed in the mill but went out on their own at maturity, possibly influenced by the tenacity that Philip showed concerning the mill and properties. According to a story, Philip's mother told him that for his selfishness he would be struck down by the Lord.

In accordance with Joseph's intention, Nancy took up the option and purchased the upper mill on Lot 27 together with ten acres of land and water rights, from Richard Cartwright, 27 July 1814, (# 392) for one hundred twenty pounds. In 1816 she married David Short.

Philip continued to operate and expand the lower mills and ended up with a three storey frame building approximately 50' x 50' with clapboard siding and cedar shake roof. The upper storey was the



The old Milford Mill operated by the Clapps and Dodges.

location of the carding mill, the second level was where farmers delivered the grain, and they picked up the grist at the lowest level. Logs could be floated to the mill for sawing and the rafts could be assembled and floated down the river. Entrance to the mill was off Milford's King Street by the right of way between the present Village Pottery and the Farwell Library, and exit out north of the present Murray Hicks store onto Main Street.

Philip Clapp had a problem; he did not have sufficient water power to operate all the machinery, except during the freshets. He decided in the spring of 1830 to put a dam across the creek in the ravine, giving a water power reserve, providing he could reach an agreement with the owners of the land adjacent to the creek. This involved Lots 25, 26, and 27 to the west, then owned by his brother James. Fortunately, James held no grudges against Philip and agreed, for the sum of five pounds, to allow the dam to be built and flood an estimated five acres of land. This interesting agreement, # 677, was the basis for all the future mill agreements and disputes that transpired concerning water levels, etc.. The one outstanding stipulation, "said Black Creek or River mill dam is never to be at no time and in no degree forever hereafter to be raised or made higher than twenty-two feet which is forever to be the limits bounded, confirmed and absolute end and determination of the aforesaid high water mark..."

Philip now had a reserve of water power. However an excess during most springs would wash out the wooden dam.

Philip married Melinda Head and they had three children:

Philip Jr., born ~~1830~~ 1827

Nancy married John B. Welbanks, lived Milford.

Sarah married Peter David, lived North Marysburgh.

Philip and the mills continued to prosper for the nineteen years he was operating them. He subsidized his income by selling portions of his land in and around Milford. All was going well until the fateful day of 16 Septemer 1832 when he was killed by a bolt of lightning at the age of forty. Mother Nancy Clapp Short, then seventy years old, regretfully saw her prophesy come true.

Philip was held in high esteem by his friends and neighbours, as evidenced by the coroner's report and an editorial appearing in the Hallowell Free Press at that time. His untimely death left his widow Melinda in a difficult situation because her only son, Philip Jr. was only two years old at the time.

For the next sixteen years, Philip's brothers George, Samuel, and Joseph jointly, or in turn, operated the mills to provide a service and an income for sister-in-law Melinda and the three children.

Melinda died suddenly 16 July 1840 at the age of forty years.

When Philip Jr. was eighteen and had apprenticed in the mill, he took over the enterprise. He married Nancy Kelly and for the next thirteen years carried on the milling business, but it was no longer



The old Fent Dodge House. Now owned by Art Clapp.



The old Dodge Bakery. Now home of the Selmans.

a thriving business due to the diminishing supply and demand for lumber. The mills and dam seemed to need constant expensive repairs and Uncle James and Cousin Samuel's mill at the upper falls was giving considerable competition. About 1858 Philip let out the mills on shares to Nelson Dodge.

In 1849 Philip deeded property to the Anglican church, and in 1858 he gave property to the Methodist church. By 1861 he had decided to give up the milling business and move away to "greener pastures." He had sold property in and around Milford and on 11 April 1861, he sold the mill and buildings on thirty acres of land along with two lots in Milford to Nelson Dodge for an undisclosed sum. Soon after, Philip and Nancy moved to Harriston in Wellington County, Ontario with their four sons, David P., John S., William R., and Robert E., and daughters Minnie, May, and Maggie, leaving three children behind buried in Milford Cemetery.

The memorial #1081 gave Nelson Dodge all water rights and right to dam the Black River as per agreement made previously by Philip Clapp Sr. in 1830, and further, "... all rights of Ingress and Egress to and from the said mills..."

Philip lived the rest of his life in Harriston where he died on June 14, 1904.

Nelson Dodge did a commendable job of continuing the milling operation and seemed to prosper until his death on February 26, 1876 at the age of 56 years, 4 months, 18 days.

Nelson's son Theodore Dodge inherited and operated the mills. Lack of business forced the closing of the carding mill and sawmill and the gristmill became the sole source of income.

Theodore married Jennie Sutherland and they had eight children:

Fenton married Augusta Lucretia Scott and lived for a time in Milford in the house now owned by Art Clapp, where Helen and Herman Dodge were born. He operated an evaporator with Gilbert Jarvis before he bought and farmed the old Haggerty farm now owned by Morden Walker.

Harold Dodge was a baker in Milford. His old bakery is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Selman on Main Street.

Nell married Robert Anderson, lived Solmesville.

Nettie married George ~~Anderson~~. **ARMSTRONG**

Jessie married Ed ~~Dayton~~. **SPIERS**

Ken worked around Milford.

John married and lived in Toronto.

Theodore continued the milling operation alone until he suffered a heart attack while dressing the millstones on Good Friday, 1907. Thomas Welbanks carried him to the house (now Hicks' store,) but the sands of time had run out for Theodore Dodge. He was buried in the Cherry Valley Cemetery at the age of sixty-two.



The old Clarke Hotel. Now the Village Pottery.



Old entrance to Dodge Mills between Milford Library and Village Pottery.

None of Theodore's sons was interested in the mill, so it lay dormant for the next thirteen years, gradually deteriorating.

On the 24th of May, 1920 the Ellis brothers, Hiram and Robert, made contact with the Dodge estate and purchased the mill and buildings attached to the properties, including all the equipment plus the old McNamara Hotel on the lot where the present Milford Post Office stands.

At this time the Ellis brothers were operating a grocery business in Milford from the former Clarke Hotel, now Village Pottery. They ran a peddling wagon through South Marysburgh. Hugh Palmatier was one of the drivers of the old Ford Model T chain drive truck. Gerald, son of Robert, can recall that when he was a lad of thirteen, Hugh would let him drive the old truck. The inconvenience of stretching for the pedals was far outweighed by the thrill of driving.

The old Dodge mill and dam was found to be beyond repair, so accepting the suggestion and direction of Ernie Brown, it was decided to move the dam and mill north, closer to the road, thus doing away with the big old mill building and the inconvenience of a troublesome entrance and exit.

Under Ernie Brown's supervision and skill a new cement dam was built near the present Milford bridge. The water power machinery was moved nearby into an old barn used for animals by the former owners. A Vessett grinder replaced the old millstones for the demand was now for animal grist instead of flour for human consumption. Later a double headed Robeson grinder was installed. After the gristmill was in operation Hiram Ellis installed a sawing outfit on and under the south end of the building. A large circular saw was installed. The old vertical saw had long before been discarded by previous proprietors.

Like many water powered mills there were seasons when the water became scarce and at the best there was not often sufficient power to drive the grinder and saws simultaneously; consequently Hiram experimented with various auxiliary power units. Six and eight cylinder car engines were tried, but proved too expensive to operate. Various tractor units were tried; a Titan, a Rumley and finally an 8-16 tractor motor.

Another engine tried was a 25 HP Fairbanks Morse gasoline engine. This was a monstrous engine for its power. The flywheels were nearly six feet high and to start the engine one man had to climb on the wheel and use his weight to turn the engine through. If the engine kicked back the man on the wheel was in for a surprise ejection, as Albert Chapman found out.

None of the power sources tried could provide power as cheaply as the Little Giant water turbine and it became customary to give grain grinding priority and sawing was done, when no grists were available, early and late in the day. Controlling the water flow to the wheel required skill and close attention to make sure that the grinders or saw were under load, otherwise the power unit would race out of control and the wooden pulleys in the power train could explode due to excessive revolutions.



The same site in 1977.



Winter scene of Hiram Ellis Mill.

*millford
out
1900*

Local farmers brought in logs during the winter with team and sleigh but the logs could not be sawed until the frost was out of them. A mountain of logs would accumulate on the slope by the mill stretching clear up to King Street. It was a sure sign of spring in Milford when the village would vibrate to the noise of the singing saw and the staccato of the planer. Extra help was then hired from the pool of available young stalwarts around Milford such as Albert Chapman, Archie Brown, Gerry Ellis, Case Dainard, Jack Thomas, etc..

Normally daily maintenance was a must to keep the machinery operating. Bearings needed oiling, saws were sharpened, grinder plates were changed, and so on. Fortunately, the Little Giant water turbine rested on a lignum vitae wooden bearing and only required periodic replacement. Due to age, some of the equipment caused problems, delays, and often replacement, but Hiram Ellis from experience was able to cope with the situation.

Hiram Ellis, born in 1882, left the family farm on the Black Creek road as a young man and apprenticed as a watchmaker, living in Welland, Ontario for a time. He operated a garage in Carleton Place and worked in the carpentry trade before returning to Milford. In the 1930's he married Luella Sprague from Big Island and lived in the former McNamara Hotel on the corner of Main and King Streets in Milford.

Hiram installed a generator powered by water power and storage batteries and enjoyed the convenience of electric lights in the mill and the house, long before hydro power was available in Milford.

Hiram was South Marysburgh township clerk and postmaster in Milford for many years. He sold the milling operation to Charlie Turner and Albert Rutter in the Forties and retired to less strenuous activities. He died in 1965.

Charlie Turner in turn sold the mills to Arnold Rigby in the late 40's. Arnold, a returned Second World War veteran, continued the gristmill and supplemented custom sawing by buying some local woodlots. His mechanical ability kept the mill operating efficiently until "a call" took him to far away places such as Egypt to teach the words of the Lord. He returned to Canada and became an ordained minister in the Standard Church.

Ronald Fox, a son-in-law of Carson D. Scott, took over the mills from Arnold Rigby in October, 1952 and with youthful energy and fortitude, maintained and improved the milling tradition in Milford at this site.

The 52 inch circular saw, the plate grinder, mixer, crate head saw and so on, were powered by a six cylinder Wakeshaw diesel engine. He installed an oat roller in 1954. In 1955 the flume and Little Giant water turbine were made operational but not used commercially. A feed storage building was put up on King Street above the mill. A small rail car was utilized to move feed and grist to and from the mill. Milford's first "railway"?

One hundred and fifty years of milling on Black River in Lot 24, 1st Concession South of Black River came to an abrupt end Saturday noon, 13 October, 1956 when fire completely burned out the mill. Carson Scott purchased the mill lot from Ron Fox in 1956. With the help of interested neighbours, Carson rebuilt the dam in 1960. The property, dam, and millpond is now owned by the Prince Edward Region Conservation Authority, and was purchased from Carson Scott in 1975.

MILFORD MILLS

Part II

The second mill in the Milford area was built on Lot 27, 1st Concession North of Black River by the pioneer Joseph Clapp around 1810 after he had established the mill in Milford on Lot 24. Joseph had the same financing and agreement for this mill as he had had previously with the property owner Richard Cartwright. Cartwright had purchased the land in 1800 from the original patent owner, Lieutenant Archibald McDonnell. This site was west of the present country road running north from the Milford-Cherry Valley highway over the creek and falls to the second Concession.

Joseph Clapp devoted most of his time to the mill in Milford which he purchased in 1812. After this he intended to take up his option and purchase the newer mill location described as, "by the upper falls of the Black River", in Lot 27, 1 N.B.R.. His plans were interrupted by his serving in the War of 1812 at Kingston, and terminated by his death in 1813.

Joseph's wife Nancy (Miller) Clapp was aware of the arrangements and purchased the mill and ten acres of attached property from Richard Cartwright on 27 July 1814 for 120 pounds, (# 392.) Description of this property in Lot 27 in part, "...five acres on each side of said river of which five acres the centre of the sawmill to be the centre whence five and a half acres to be measured each way in the direction of the stream up and down the current making fifteen chains eighty-three links along the water of said river on each side by three chains and fifteen links in depth together with all the woods and waters thereon...."

Widow Nancy Clapp married David Short in 1816 and to re-finance the mill operation they obtained a mortgage loan of 178 pounds from Kingston merchants James Torrance and Neil McLeod, to be paid by August, 1818, (# 501.)

Evidently things did not go well with the mill because the mortgage had not been paid by 1826. In the meantime, James Torrance had died and Neil McLeod sold the mortgage to another prominent Kingston and Toronto lawyer, Marshall Spring Bidwell, on 29 May, 1826. Bidwell, son of Barnabus Bidwell, was a strong reformer and left Canada during the political unrest of 1837 to live in Albany, New York. Sir John A. Macdonald respected Bidwell's ability and suggested he return to Kingston, but Bidwell declined.

Since the mortgage agreement was in arrears Mr. Bidwell, to protect his investment, was going to foreclose, but upon



About 1888



Close up of saw mill.

investigation he found that James Clapp, son of Nancy and Joseph, claimed possession of the land, by virtue of his paying off the mortgage loan to Mr. Torrance, now deceased. There was no evidence of this payment and Bidwell took James Clapp to court on at least two occasions to have him evicted. Finally, in September of 1836 a court decision was made; James Clapp was to pay Bidwell the original 178 pounds plus interest and all court costs, in total 284 pounds, 6 s., 3d.. To make it more binding James had moved the saw and equipment east of the country road to Lot 26 and used it to establish his own mill. What was there to do? The Cartwright family came to the rescue. John S., the son of Richard Cartwright had sold James Clapp Lot 26, 1st Concession North of Black River back in 1826, so he took over Bidwell's mortgage and the matter was settled.

James Clapp established his mill on Lot 26 under the low escarpment adjacent to, but east of the falls. Water power was supplied from ponds on the highland. These holding ponds were created by the water's diversion before it went over the falls. The vertical saw was housed in an open shed, and was powered by water flowing through wooden flumes from the ponds above, to the waterwheel.

Later the gristmill was built about a hundred feet east of the sawmill. Pictures show a three storey timber frame building approximately 50 feet by 30 feet. It had strapped board siding, cedar shake roof, and later, a brick chimney on the east end.

Due to the limited supply of water available in dry seasons, an attempt to recycle the water was made but without significant results. Later an upright boiler steam power unit was installed at the east end of the gristmill; this again proved to be too expensive compared with water power.

The accompanying picture shows a horse shed attached to the west side of the gristmill and a blacksmith shop in front across the road. In the background the farm buildings can be seen.

The last Clapp to own the property had a thresher separator installed permanently in the barn, powered by a portable donkey steam engine.

The foregoing description is a far cry from the appearance of the original installation. It had taken some eighty years and three generations of Clapps to establish the facility so described.

Lot 26, 1st Concession North of Black River had passed from McDonnell to Richard Cartwright in 1800. James Clapp, the second eldest son of Joseph and Nancy Clapp, purchased the property from John S. Cartwright on 25 July 1826 for 150 pounds, (#1140.)

James Clapp was thirteen years old when his father died. He worked for his older brother Philip in the mill and rafted timber east to Quebec City for export for five years, from 1813 to 1818. In 1818 he operated his own timber and rafting enterprise and became very prosperous in the following eight years.

In 1826 James married Jane Sproule, a spirited Irish woman

newly arrived from the Old Country. They had five sons and two daughters. All the sons apprenticed in the mill. Some continued to work for their dad; others went their own ways.

Robert farmed in Milford, was a Justice of the Peace, Warden, Collector of Customs, etc.. He retired in Picton.

Joseph lived east of Milford, was a miller and Captain in the Militia, No. 6 Company, Milford.

John drowned.

William Henry farmed north of the Milford millpond.

Samuel, the youngest inherited the mills.

Susan Jane married Mr. Richards and lived in Greenbush.

Nancy possibly died young.

Although James lacked a formal education, he and his mill prospered and he was able to establish his children on his various other holdings in the surrounding district. He was described as a hardy, prosperous man, never sick a day in his life until he was stricken about three hours before he died. At the last moment he whispered, "The Lord's will be done", and passed away on 3 February, 1875.

James Clapp's will (item # 368) proved he was not only prosperous but also generous to his wife and grandchildren. Samuel Clapp, James and Jane's youngest son, born in 1843, inherited the lands, mills and buildings and continued to operate the entire business for the next eleven years. He became disenchanted with the milling business due to the lack of timber, water problems, and competition from the Theodore Dodge mill, so he put his entire holdings up for sale. On 12 June 1886 he sold one hundred, eighty-five acres of land, including the mills and equipment, to the Kirkpatrick's, Bethuel H. and Lewis A. K., for six thousand dollars. He and his family moved west to Tecumseh near Windsor, Ontario where he bought extensive lands which were later to become very valuable due to the expansion of the city of Windsor.

The Kirkpatrick's evidently were not too impressed with their new investment, for in less than two years they sold out to William Byron Scott on 21 May 1888, (#1717.)

William B. Scott was described as a gentleman from the County of Lyon in the State of Kansas, near Topeka. He moved his family to the property and took over the farm and mills. Hence, the name Scott's Mills was begun and remains to the present.

William Byron Scott was born in England in 1843 and emigrated to the United States at a young age. He received an above average education for the times and became an educator, specializing in pen art. His profession took him throughout the mid-west and into Ontario. During one of these Ontario placements he met and married Mary Anne Farr of Woodbridge, Ontario. With the responsibility of a wife, and later six children, W. B. was looking for a permanent setting in Canada and the Kirkpatrick's deal provided this opportunity.

W. B. had little previous experience as a farmer and some as a miller, working at a mill in Flat Rock, Michigan, but he decided he could make out utilizing local skilled help and his sons. He was exceptional in the use of them for pen art, but had no intention of soiling his hands with manual labour; thus he delegated the women to look after the animals and his sons to operate the farm and the mill.

William Byron Scott and Mary Anne had six children:

Mable married Gilbert Jarvis, lived Black Creek.

Fannie married Ernie Brown, lived in Oshawa, Milford, and Oshawa again.

Will was into lumbering in Astabula, Kansas for a time, and returned to Milford after the death of his wife.

Farr was a tailor and lived in Toledo, Ohio. He retired and travelled the U.S.A. as a National Checker Champion.

H. K. Scott was a Baptist minister. He turned the sod for the first Baptist Church in Picton.

Lee, born in 1875, remained at Milford and operated the mills.

The milling business did not provide a very substantial income for the family due to the local competition from the Dodge mills and gradual deterioration of the equipment and buildings. The buildings were covered with flour dust; this attracted moisture to the point of saturation. The cedar shakes rotted and leaked, bringing about rotting of the timbers and flooring. With little or no ready cash available to make repairs, the building slowly but surely disintegrated.

When William Byron Scott died in 1921, his son Lee continued a limited operation of the mills. It was necessary for Lee to modify the mills using salvageable materials, and he did some milling and sawing when water was available. Some fifty years ago Lee Scott was noted for the quality of the buckwheat flour he milled. Large families like Rube Clapp's and Jim Bond's would bring in as much as a ton of buckwheat to be ground into flour to provide a staple menu of pancakes over the winter.

Lee Scott married first Caroline May Davis who was born in 1881. She died in 1926 and he married her sister Alice who was born in 1877. Lee and Caroline had three children: Carmen, Carson, and Eunice who all lived in Prince Edward County.

Lee continued to repair and modify the mills to allow casual operation; the last work done was in the 1940's. Lee retired from milling and the mill became dormant. Lee and Alice lived in the old Samuel Clapp house, now owned by the Handley family, until Alice died in 1955; then Lee retired in Cherry Valley until his death in 1960.

Carson Davis Scott lived in the old James Clapp house until he sold it to the Buxton family and retired to a new home in Milford by the bridge.



The old Samuel Clapp House. Now owned by the Handleys.



The old James Clapp House. Now owned by the Buxtons.



The retirement home of Carson Davis Scott by the Millpond in Milford.

The old mill and property were sold to the Prince Edward Region Conservation Authority in 1975 and steps are being taken to put the old mill back into limited operation. It will be a condensed version of the mill operations from the hey-days of the mid-1800's.



Scott's Mill as it appears Spring, 1977.



MILFORD MILLS

Part III

The third mill to be located in Milford was built in 1932 by Carson Davis Scott, son of Lee Scott. It was a small framed two level building on the street back from the town hall joining King and Philip Streets. Since it was Depression times, Carson had to use his winning ways to talk some equipment suppliers into installing the grinder and power unit on the "never-never" plan; that is, pay when the money becomes available.

He had a grinder installed, powered by a big single cylinder Fairbanks Morse engine in the basement. Carson Scott said it was an outstanding outfit; he never in his lifetime saw such a great engine.

Carson did custom grinding for the local farmers, providing grist for animal feed. Unfortunately, after a couple of years grinding it was apparent that there was not enough business for this and the Ellis mills, so he closed down and the suppliers took back their equipment.

The mill remained closed until 1937 when Roy Hicks purchased it. Roy had been a commercial fisherman on Main Duck and at Point Traverse. He hung up his "sou'wester" to operate a farm and a general store out of the old Theodore Dodge house on the corner of King and Main Streets in Milford. Carrying on the traditions of the past merchants of Milford, Roy had a peddling wagon that made the rounds of South Marysburgh Township.

Meanwhile, back at the mill, Roy installed a hammer mill and powered it with a two cylinder Lister diesel and later a John Deere semi-diesel. He operated the mill, while his industrious wife Nellie ran the store. Once again, after seven years of eating dust and slaving, it was apparent that the milling business was not profitable, so Roy closed down this operation in 1944.

In 1947 Roy and Nellie's son, Murray utilized his war service credits and re-opened the mill, installing new and better equipment from time to time. He continued to operate at this location until 1958. That year he built a new cement building next to the Hicks General Store on King Street. By this time, Roy and Nellie had retired to a farm to specialize in cattle raising. Murray Hicks took over the store which he continues to operate, assisted by his capable wife, Verna.

Murray installed all new equipment in the block building and



The mill built by Carson Scott. Later owned by the Hicks and now by Quentin Minaker.





Murray Hicks Store. Once the home of Theodore Dodge and old mill owners.



Last mill to operate in Milford by Murray Hicks. Now an apartment.



carried on custom grinding, supplemented with feed sales. He had a monopoly as the sole miller in Milford after the Fox mill burned in 1956, but by 1972 it was obvious that it was not a paying business. Cost of labour, the prevalence of mobile mills, and the fact that some farmers had their own mills all contributed to the closing of the last commercial mill in Milford.

The cement block structure was converted to a private residential apartment. The former mill building on the street between King and Philip is now owned by Quentin Minaker and is used for the storage of auto parts.

Local farmers operated small mills in barns and sheds in South Marysburgh from time to time, and provided a worthwhile service to their neighbours, as well as contributing to the demise of the old established mills, as we have shown.

The H. Belden and Company Atlas of 1878, of Hastings and Prince Edward shows a mill on the creek above Jackson's Falls, located on the Jackson property. Unfortunately, almost no history of this mill has been found thus far.

As we approach the end of the second century of local settlement it seems ironical that all that is left of the industry that gave Milford its name is the name itself.

This history of the mills was researched and compiled by MURRAY CLAPP, R. R. #1, MILFORD, ONTARIO, K0K 2P0 in the early days of 1977.

Sources of information were:

- 1) Interviews with:
 - Helen (Dodge) Striker
 - Carson Davis Scott
 - Murray Hicks
 - Willis Metcalfe
 - Maurice Clapp
 - Norman Ackerman
 - Gerald Ellis
- 2) Research of documents in the Prince Edward County Registry Office, Picton, assisted by Jack Graydon and his accommodating staff.
- 3) Review of Clapp Family history.
- 4) General conversations with interested and interesting citizens of South Marysburgh; these my neighbours and friends.

Inaccuracies are no doubt present in this account and any further information or clarification would be welcomed by the researcher.

Note:

A concise description of the machines and equipment in the early mills has been intentionally avoided simply because it would be based on speculation. It can be presumed that improvements were made in accordance with advancing milling technology in the 1800's.

Whether the first water wheels were undershot or overshot or of the tub wheel design can only be a guess. The mills were converted to water turbines after the 1850's when these became available. The foundry at Glenora manufactured the famous Little Giant water turbine which was likely the unit utilized in the local mills.

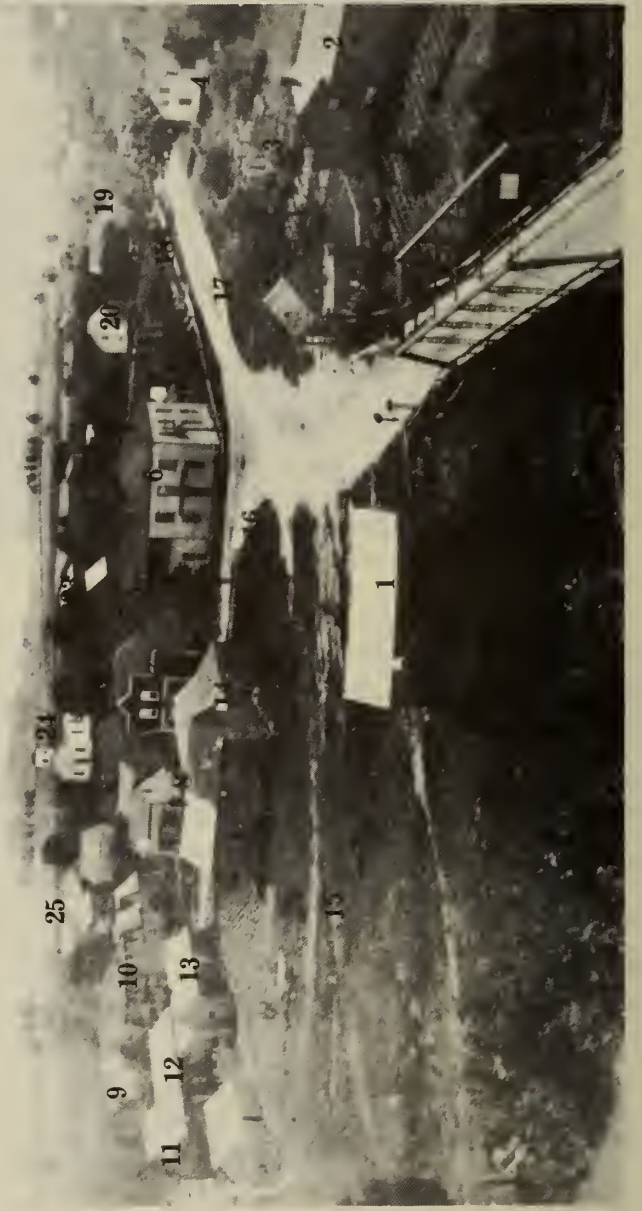
Anyone interested in milling techniques of those times can do his own research and form his own conclusions. Two excellent publications available at libraries for this purpose are:

- 1) *Mills of Canada* by Carol Priamo
- 2) *The Mill* by William Fox, Bill Brooks, and Janice Tyrwhitt

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

To the Staff of The Picton Gazette for their assistance and co-operation in preparing this publication.

MILFORD CIRCA 1915



**PICTURE
MILFORD CIRCA 1915**

- 1 Barn converted to mill by Hiram Ellis 1920.
- 2 Dainard House and Barn.
- 3 Ruins of Empey Hotel
- 4 Norman Minaker House owned in turn by Cab Walker, Mait Robbins, now Karl Moore.
- 5 Old Dodge Bakery now home of Selmans
- 6 McNamara Hotel, last owned by Hiram Ellis now site of Milford Post Office.
- 7 R. A. Knox Store owned or operated in time by Fred Dodge, Charlie York, Geo. Lou Ostrander, Dave Pounder, Jack Pounder, now Jack Clark.
- 8 Old Dr. Braden House replaced burned out brick, this house occupied in time by Dr's. Rundle and Chant. Glen McQuoid, Albert Chapman and now Jack Clark.
- 9 McKibbon Store later owned or operated by Selim Starks, Albert Chapman and now Quentin Minaker.
- 10 McKibbon Home now Quentin Minaker owned.
- 11 Township weigh scales moved away. Now site of Milford Library.
- 12 George Louis Ostrander Store owned by Jack Clark.
- 13 Store run by Julie Dodge, widow of Fred Dodge. Later was a pool room and barber shop. Now gone.
- 14 Home in turn of Philp Clapp, Nelson Dodge, Theodore Dodge, now Murray Hicks Store.
- 15 Exit tracks from old Milford Mill.
- 16 King Street
- 17 Main Street
- 18 Philip Street
- 19 Arthur Powers House now owned by Maxcine Bongard
- 20 William Head Home owned 1915 by Nettie Turnbull.
- 21 Old Milford Post Office owned by Miss Mary E. Cook.
- 22 Milford Telegraph Office. Now on estate of Willis Metcalfe, Black Creek.
- 23 Formerly the Fred Dodge Home.
- 24 Old St. Philips Church. Burned Sept. 1920. Replaced by present structure.
- 25 George Lowery Home in 1915.





Printed by
Prince Edward Printing, Picton

Copy.

Extract from: The Tonic System applied to Names of England, France and Germany by Robert Ferguson, published in London by Williams & Norgate in 1864, at page 183.

A third root signifying to beat in Old Norse Keappa, Old High German Klaphôn.

Simple Forms.

Old Germ. Claffo, Lombard Kiez, 6th cent. Clapho, Clep, Clappa, son of Ida, King of Bernicia. Ergod Clapa, Danish Nobleman at the Court of Canute. English, Clapp, Clavey. Modern Germ., Klapp. French, Claveau, Clavé, Clavey.

Diminutives.

Eng. Claplin. French Clabbeek, French Clave.

Patronymics.

Eng. Clapson, French Clapissou."

Compounds.

(And, prosperity) French Clabant. (Hari, warrior). Eng. Clapper + Modern German, Klaber - French Clapier, Clavier, Claverie, Kleber. (Rou raven) Fr. Claperyon. (Rat, red counsel) French Claverot, Claparede.

Extract from the Latin Chronicle of Florence.

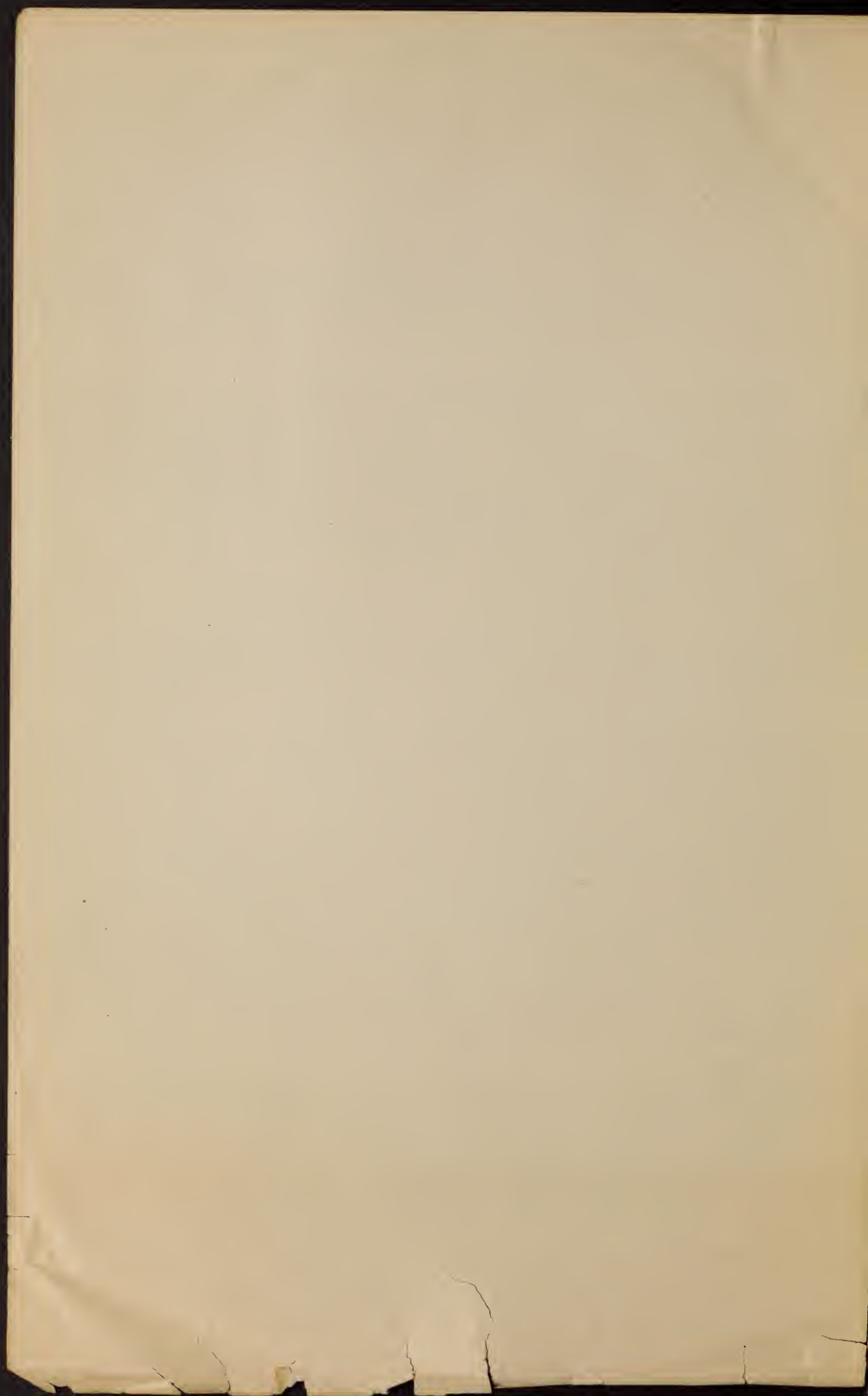
(Trans.) A. D. 554 and 558. — x x x x x x

During Aelle's lifetime, Adda, the eldest son of Ida, reigned over the Bernicians seven years;

Clappa, five years; Theodulf, one year; Freothul, seven years." From the Church histories of England, Vol II, part I, pub 1853, at page 173.

Clap, Clep, Claph, Clappa etc etc

my italics



From 'Homes & Places' by Canon Taylor in
Everyman's Library at page 289:-

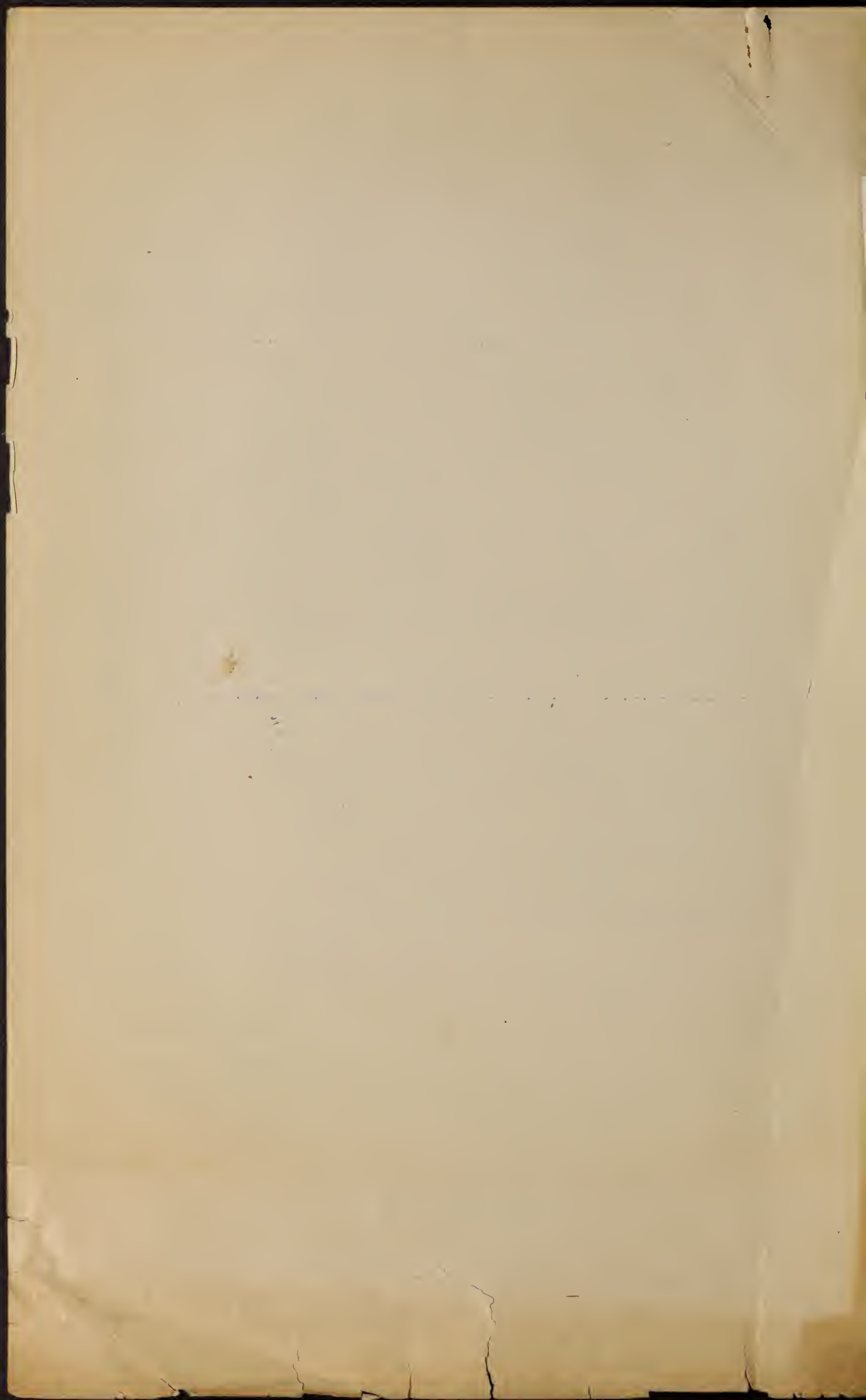
"An instance, we read in a later and more
historical portion of the Saxon Chronicle,
and in the Latin version which bears
the name of Florence, that King Harthacnut
drank himself to death at a feast which
Osgod Clapha, one of the great nobles of
Norrwy, gave in his house at Lambeth
to celebrate the marriage of his daughter
Gythra with Tooi the Proud. In this case
there is a very high probability that the
London suburb of Clapham takes its
name from the ham of the Saxon thane."
Church Historians of England - The Chronicles
of Florence of Worcester.

A.D. - 1042:- Harthacnut, King of the English,
while standing at the wedding-feast,
given at a place called Lambeth, by
Osgod Clapha, a great Lord, on the oc-
casion of the joyful marriage of his
daughter Gytha with Tooi, surnamed
Proud, a Danish nobleman, etc etc etc

A.D. 1046:- Osgod Clapha was expelled from
England

1048- an account is given of Osgod
harrying the coasts of England, making
war on Edward the Confessor.

I could quote from the Anglo-Saxon
Chronicle a good deal of the history of
Osgod and that he died quietly in his
bed in England, A.D. 1054. Forsh.
read Freeman's Old Eng. History &
his Norman Conquest for more
details. This is more interesting than
even Dugdale's Essays.



Dr. H.C. Burleigh M.D. C.M.
Kingston Ontario.

B.R.#1 Melford Ont
April 3 1978

Dear Sir:

I have been requested by Mrs Donna Gibson of Colorado Springs Colorado to nullify an indebtedness that she has incurred regarding Clapp family research.

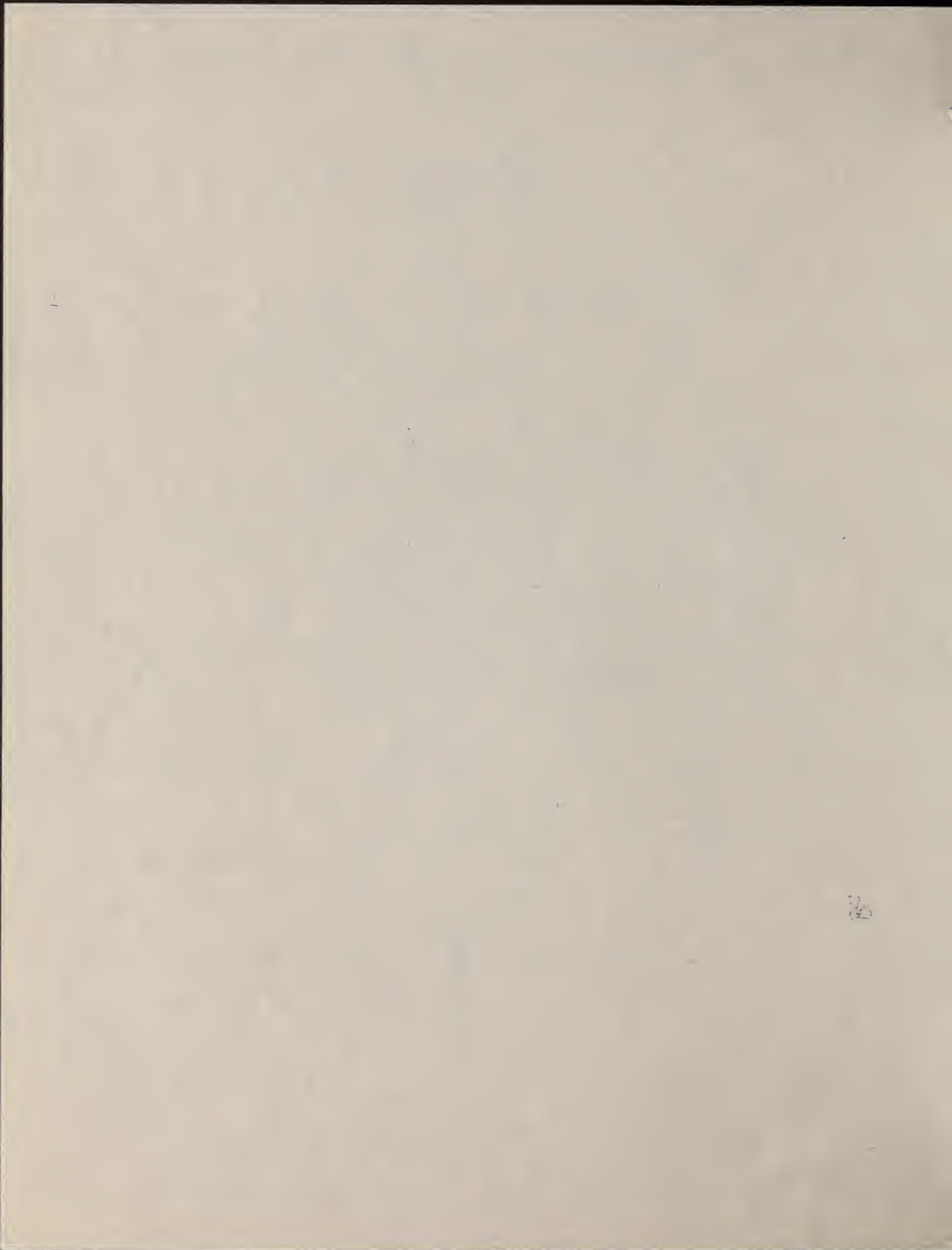
I have decided that it would be appropriate to pay the account in kind, and send you some information that might enhance your Clapp files. I realize that such material is not considered legal tender ~~and~~ the local A & P, but the value may be evidenced in the clarification or substantiation of the past flowery writings of David P Clapp (1849-1922) and Robert Clapp (1830-1888). Fortunately or unfortunately, the some what inflated and inaccurate submissions of these two gentlemen have been inserted in various publications. We have been told what they considered appropriate but they neglected to inform their readers of some negative details like, that their ancestors were disowned by the Quakers etc etc.

David P Clapp, without success, quested for the honour of ~~adding~~ adding U.E. to his signature, as evidenced by the stack of correspondence in the Ontario Archives.

Robert Clapp had a similar ambition for grandeur and public acceptance in his time.

I sincerely ^{hope} that you will accept the enclosed as a token of our appreciation for your assistance.

Yours very truly
Dorothy Clapp.



Jul 5, 1978

Dear Mr Burleigh —

I'm hoping you can be some help to me. I am tracing my family - the Clapps. My mom is a Clapp.

In August 1978 I came to Canada to do research with my cousin Murray Clapp who lives down in Milford on the old homestead of his great grandfather Joseph Clapp.

While we were searching I came across an article that mentioned you had a history for the Clapps - also the Rollins whom Clapps are related to somehow.

We did a lot of searching - for 10 days and found so little on Clapps. We stopped by to visit Lorna P. Thompson who is Murray's Aunt. She & Murray were going to visit you but she was ill or something this last fall.

Would you be so kind as to share your information on the Clapps with me. I would be more than glad to pay for this information.

We read several of your articles &
really enjoyed them. We were in
Kempston one day and almost dropped
by to visit you. I'm really sorry
now that we didn't take that
opportunity.

We're really anxious to hear
from you.

Sincerely,

Donna Gibson
4914 Crestwood
Colorado Springs, Colo
80918

* Elias Clapp
 D 1762-83
 Ruth Allen
 New York
 Westchester Co + Dutchess

Henry Clapp

Benjamin Clapp
 born 1803
 Miss El. Robin

John Clapp
 1732
 Dhebe Hallock

* Joseph Clapp
 1762?
~~Nancy Miller~~ Mercy Carpenter

to
 Conaew { Elias - Mary Donbnd
 Benjamin (deceased on 1803
 9 Bro. & Sisters (to Hillier)

Philoa
 Allan
 Mary
 Phelbet
 William
 Elizabeth
 John

Jesse J.
 to * { Joseph - Nancy Miller
 Conaew { Benjamin
 Rhoda
 Ursula
 Ruth
 Elias
 James
 Henry
 Nathaniel

* Direct line

Joseph Clapp 1762-1813
Nancy Miller 1762-1836

Sarah
John Vandewater

Philip
* Melinda Head

Calherine
Levi Baldwin

Patience
Edward
Dulmage

James
Jane Spraul

George
Nancy Herbert

Samuel
Sarah Fralick

Joseph
Susannah
Fralick

Philip Clapp
Melinda Head

Sarah
Abel Lawrie

Nancy
John Wellbanks

* Philip
Nancy Ann Kelly

Philip Clapp
Nancy Ann Kelly

David P.

* John S.
Amy Terry

Robert E.
Zilva Davis

Minnie
Richard Wells

Margaret

Mae
Luther Foot

Fannie

Benny L.

Joseph Campbell

Henry William

William A.

John A. Clapp
Amy Terry

Thomas A.

* William H.
Nettie Jackson

Helena S.

Wm. H. Clapp
Nettie Jackson

* Amy E.
my mother

Rogers W.

Alice J.

February 26, 1978.

Donna Gibson,
4914 Crestwood.
Colorado Springs,
Colo., U. S. A. 80918

Dear Lady:---

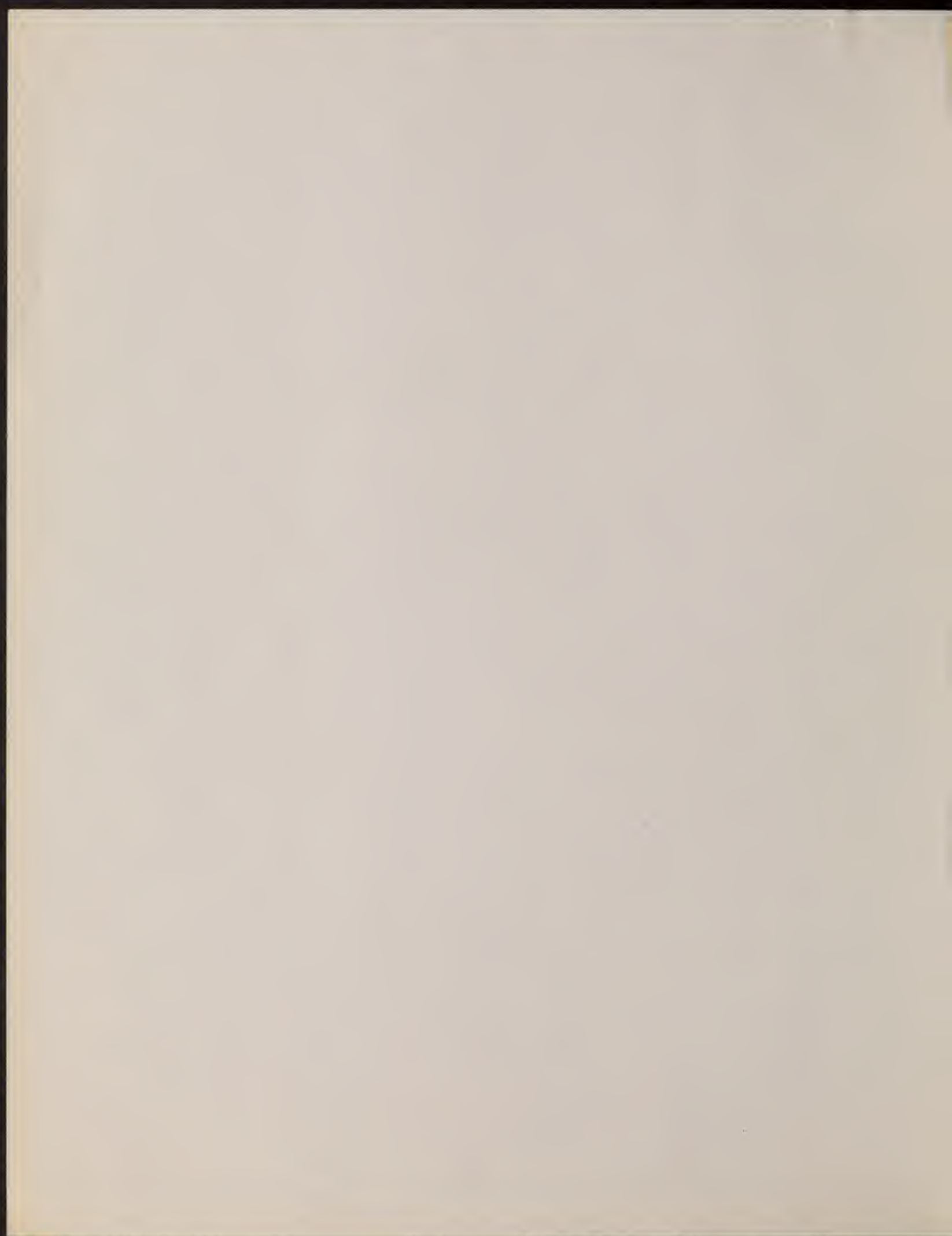
I have your letter of Feb. 5, and I have tried to give you a reasonable response. I have met Murray Clapp, and know Lorna Thompson very well. In fact, she telephoned me about an hour ago, and I mentioned preparing some data for you.

I do hope that I have advanced your knowledge of your family because of what I am enclosing. As you will see, item 1 is an article by David Clapp, B.A., of Le Pas, Manitoba. To it I have added an item copied from work by C. C. James, being an article on the Clapps. In addition I have copied those Clapps who resided in Adolphustown between 1794 and 1822.

I do hope that you can glean some information from these items. I did not go into the generations of the family, as you have already been in touch with Murray. However, I do have a great many lists from Prince Edward County, such as burial places, baptisms, marriages, etc., should you feel inclined to dig deeper.

In the meantime, I feel that what I have done is well worth twenty dollars. If you agree, send it along to me. If you don't, you know what you can do about it.

Loyally yours



C E
DAVID CLAPP, B.A.
Barrister, Solicitor
Notary Public, Commissioner, Etc.
SPECIAL EXAMINER

SOLICITOR FOR CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

THE PAS, MANITOBA 22nd)ctr., 1924

W.C. Mickel, Esq., K.C.,
Mayot, Belleville, Ont.

Dear Sir,-

I understand you are publishing a vol. on the celebration of the 140th Anniversary of the coming of the U.E.L.'s to Ontario, and wish to hear from the U.E.L. people in regard to their families. I do not believe I can do better than refer you to "Pioneer Life on The Bay of Quinte" page 191. It contains a fairly good account of the family in Canada, but with some errors.

In the History of the Clapp Family in America pub. by our namesakes in Boston in 1877, there is a very short account of us in Canada. The book was in print before it was known that there were Clapps in Canada. My great Grandfather Joseph Clapp mentioned as a sub. for £5 to erect the first Methodist Church in Old Canada and perhaps the first Church in Ontario came to Adolphustown with his two brothers Benjamin and James. His sisters Rhoda who m. Mr Lossee, and Ursula who m. Sampson Striker also came too. Then there were John and William Clapp, the sons of Thomas Clapp who came to Adolphustown. There were seven of them all told counting Mrs. Lossee and Mrs. Striker.

Now none of these are on the U.E.L. Lists in Ottawa nor in the Ontario one. I have no doubt that one or more of them registered, but the Land Boards neglected to send in the names, and the J.P.'s were alike careless. As Joseph Clapp served the King in the Rev. War and died in the Service at Kingston in Feb., 1813, a member of the Pr. Edward County Militia, Capt. John Allen, and married a U.E.L. woman, named Nancy Miller whose father was registered, I am about to Petition the Secretary of State to register their descendants as U.E.L.'s.

I enclose a few memos which I had written out to mail to my brother Dr. Clapp of Walkerton, and you will notice that we have a very ancient surname, and the Clapps came into England with its first invaders. Osgod Clapa was the second man in England during the reigns of Cnut the Great, his two sons Harold and Harthenut and during the first years of Edw. the Conf., but as he desired the election of a Danish King he was banished the Kingdom, but came back with Earl Godwin and his sons and died quietly in his bed in 1054. This has caused the Historians to describe him as a "Danish Lord". Milton in his History of Even Milton in his History of England describes him as "Osgod Sur-named Clapa was a potent Dane". He was a west Saxon Nobleman. There have been men of title with our surname since that far off day. It is given in the History of the Family.

I was sorry I could not attend the meeting in June last, but I may be in Ontario in Jan. next. I have a fair supply of books on the subject with histories of Dutchess and West Chester Counties and the Town of Rye in the latter county. I am watching to purchase all I can lay my hands on, and am adding to my library from time to time.

Yours faithfully,

David Clapp

P.S. I have vol. 1 of Playfair's History of Methodism a very valuable work, but out of print. Cannot get the 2nd vol.

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem of the origin of life. It is shown that the problem is one of the most important and interesting in the history of science. The author discusses the various theories of the origin of life, and shows that the most probable one is that of spontaneous generation. He also discusses the evidence in favor of this theory, and shows that it is supported by the facts of the case.

2. The second part of the paper is devoted to a detailed discussion of the evidence in favor of spontaneous generation. The author discusses the various experiments which have been conducted in this field, and shows that they all support the theory of spontaneous generation. He also discusses the various objections to this theory, and shows that they are all unfounded.

3. The third part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the various theories of the origin of life. The author discusses the various theories, and shows that the most probable one is that of spontaneous generation. He also discusses the evidence in favor of this theory, and shows that it is supported by the facts of the case.

4. The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the various theories of the origin of life. The author discusses the various theories, and shows that the most probable one is that of spontaneous generation. He also discusses the evidence in favor of this theory, and shows that it is supported by the facts of the case.

5. The fifth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the various theories of the origin of life. The author discusses the various theories, and shows that the most probable one is that of spontaneous generation. He also discusses the evidence in favor of this theory, and shows that it is supported by the facts of the case.

DAVID CLAPP, B.A.
Barrister, Solicitor
Notary Public, Commissioner, Etc.
SPECIAL EXAMINER
SOLICITOR FOR CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE
THE PAS, MANITOBA

27th Octr., 1924.

W.C. Mikel, Esq., K.C.,
Mayor,
Belleville, Ont.
Dear Sir,-

I have thought it better to write an account of the Clapp's and submit it to you for your Memorial Vpl. about to be published. I enclose one or the copy for your perusal. My reading on Family History has been a wide one as you will notice. I commenced early in life making an inquiry about the Clapps, and have accumulated a large amount of information and a nice Library on the subject. I have here all the books I name and many more. I trust you may be able to find room for what I have written, but if not and in any event I wish to subscribe for the book you are about to issue. Let me know its price and it will be mailed you.

Yours faithfully,

David P. Clapp

*My Library I expect to leave to the
Ontario Archives for the use of any
inquirer in the years to come.*

D.P.C.

1871
The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been elected to the office of Justice of the Peace for the year 1871.
The names are as follows:
1. John A. Smith
2. James B. Jones
3. William C. Brown
4. Charles D. White
5. Edward F. Green
6. George H. Black
7. Henry I. Grey
8. Thomas J. Hall
9. John K. King
10. William L. Lee
11. Charles M. Miller
12. George N. Moore
13. Henry O. Parker
14. Thomas P. Quinn
15. John R. Reed
16. William S. Shaw
17. Charles T. Stone
18. George U. Taylor
19. Henry V. Vance
20. Thomas W. Walker
21. John X. White
22. William Y. Wright
23. Charles Z. Young
24. George A. Adams
25. Henry B. Baker
26. Thomas C. Carter
27. John D. Davis
28. William E. Evans
29. Charles F. Fisher
30. George G. Gibson
31. Henry H. Harris
32. Thomas I. Ingram
33. John J. Jackson
34. William K. Keith
35. Charles L. Lewis
36. George M. Martin
37. Henry N. Nelson
38. Thomas O. Olson
39. John P. Peterson
40. William Q. Quinn
41. Charles R. Reed
42. George S. Shaw
43. Henry T. Stone
44. Thomas U. Taylor
45. John V. Vance
46. William W. Walker
47. Charles X. White
48. George Y. Wright
49. Henry Z. Young
50. Thomas A. Adams
51. John B. Baker
52. William C. Carter
53. Charles D. Davis
54. George E. Evans
55. Henry F. Fisher
56. Thomas G. Gibson
57. John H. Harris
58. William I. Ingram
59. Charles J. Jackson
60. George K. Keith
61. Henry L. Lewis
62. Thomas M. Martin
63. John N. Nelson
64. William O. Olson
65. Charles P. Peterson
66. George Q. Quinn
67. Henry R. Reed
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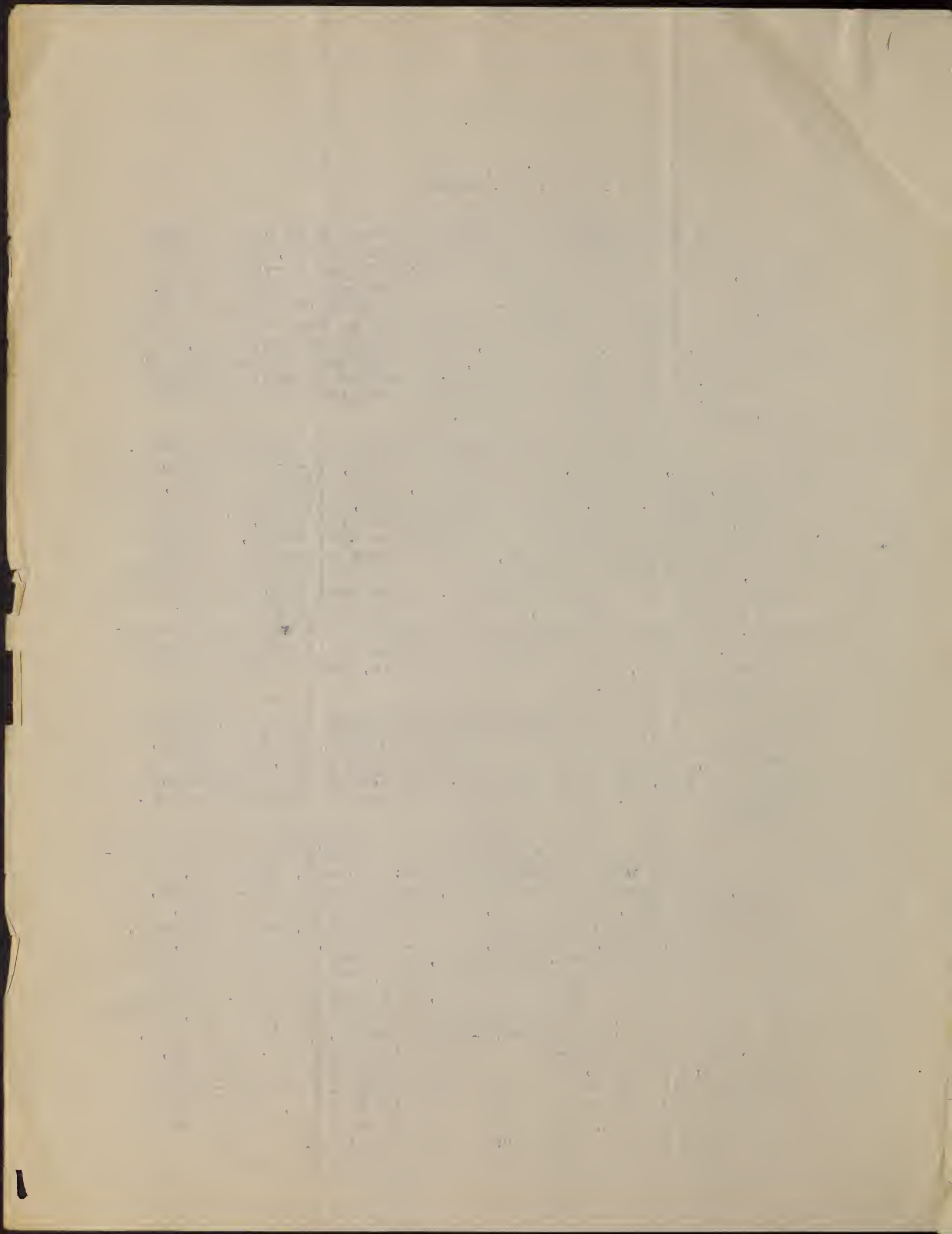
THE CLAPP FAMILY

K The Clapp family claims descent from one or more of the first invaders of England by the Saxons, Angles and Jutes, as we read in the Latin chronicle of Florence of Worcester that Clappa was King of the Berniceans in A. D. 556, and also in the Anglo-Saxon chronicle that Osgod Clapa was the master of the King's horse during the reigns of Cnut the Great, Harold, Harthcnut, and Edward the Confessor, being the second man in the kingdom, and signing his name next to the King. That division of London called Clapham was named after this West Saxon Thane as he had his manor house at Lambeth in which Harthcnut died.

K The first of the name to come to America was Capt. Roger Clapp, in 1630, followed by Edward, Thomas and Nicholas in 1633, who settled in Dorchester, now a part of Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. George Gilson Clapp, a relative of the above, and the ancestor of the Canadian families, came out from London in 1666 with his wife and son John and his family, settling at first in South Carolina, but afterwards removed to New York, practicing his profession in the County of West Chester some twenty miles from the City. From that County the family spread north to Dutchess, from which county those who were N. E. L's came to Canada at the close of the War of the Revolution. The name is frequently mentioned in Belton's History of Westchester, Baird's History of Rye, and Smith's History of Dutchess County.

The Clapps were Quakers in their old home, and we read in Baird's History published in 1871, "One of these, probably, was the family of Captain John Clapp, who came early to Rye, as early as 1705. In 1718 he was styled a reputed Quaker". This Captain John was the grandson of Dr. George Gilson. 1718

The following members of the family all came to Canada after the War of the Revolution:- Joseph, Benjamin, and James, with their sisters Rhoda, who married a Mr. Lossee, and lived near Bath, and Ursula, who married Samson Striker, all children of Joseph and their cousins William, son of Thomas, and Gilbert, John, Benjamin, Letty, Thomas, and Dorland, all the children of Henry. Benjamin, the son of Joseph went by ship from New York to Sorel in Quebec, wintering there with his family among the other Loyalists, rowing up the St. Lawrence in a boat with Major Vanalstine and fourteen other men, landing at Hay Bay in Adolphustown, Lennox County, on 16th of June, 1784, and there began the settlement of Ontario. Joseph, Benjamin's brother, left Dutchess County near the city of Poughkeepsie with his sister Ursula and his brother-in-law Samson Striker a year or two after in January, travelling in a sleigh and team, being over a month making the journey to Fourth Town as Adolphustown was then called.



1-2
Joseph married Nancy Miller, the daughter of a Loyalist, in Adolphustown in 1788 or 1789. Philip Clapp, the grandfather of the writer, his second child, was born in October, 1792. A grant of land was made to Joseph of the west half of Lot 13, in concession 3 of that Township for military services in the War. I have this information from the Dominion at Ottawa.

Archivist

In 1808, he sold his land and removed to South Marysburgh in Prince Edward County, erecting a saw mill there, naming the place Milford and being its first settler. He was called to the war of 1812, and like so many other Loyalists, left his farm and mill in the care of his good wife and children, going to Kingston in the early fall, becoming a member of the Prince Edward County Militia, Captain John Allen's Company. He died in the February following, aged 50, of some malady contracted in the garrison, and was buried in the military graveyard ~~up~~ Princess Street in the City of Kingston. Joseph had been reared a Quaker, but married a Methodist, and we find that in 1792, he subscribed five pounds for the erection of the first Methodist Church in Old Canada, and perhaps the first church in that Province. See Vol. 1, at Page 31, of Playter's History of Methodism, and he is there described as the brother-in-law of Elizabeth, the widow of Philip Roblin.

Playter's

In the report of the bureau of Industries for 1899 by C.C. James, there is a short account of the Clapps. It appears John Clapp was a soldier in Burgoyne's Army and they, with other members of the Society of Friends, were styled "The fighting Quakers". The family took a prominent part in the settlement of all the Bay of Quinte counties, and it has left numerous descendants and relatives in the Dominion and in the United States. Any member of the family who may wish for further information may consult the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, the Chronicle of Florence of Worcester, Freeman's Old English History and his Norman Conquest, Isaac Taylor's Words and Places, Playter's History of Methodism, James' Report, The Clapp Family in America, Belton's History of West Chester, Baird's History of Rye, Smith's History of Dutchess County, and Mansell's Genealogical Index for other items.

Playter's

Dr Canniff's History of the Settlement of upper Canada, Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte at page 141, and Mansell's etc

David P. Clapp

The Pas, Manitoba,
October 25th, 1924.

